

The County of Centre

PROCLAMATION

NUMBER 31 OF 2016

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a serious crime that affects people of all races, ages, gender, sexual orientations and income levels; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is widespread and affects over 4 million Americans each year and one in three Americans have witnessed an incident of domestic violence and children that grow up in violent homes are believed to be abused and neglected at a rate higher than the national average; and

WHEREAS, 68% of battered women reported violence towards their animals - 87% of these incidents occurred in the presence of the women, and 75% in the presence of the children, to psychologically control and coerce them; and

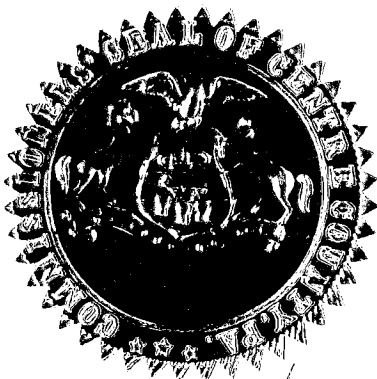
WHEREAS, 13% of intentional animal abuse cases involve domestic violence; and the Centre County Women's Resource Center offers services to support survivors and programs to educate our community about domestic violence and has relationships with area animal shelters that will provide a safe place for a pet; and

WHEREAS, every family member deserves a peaceful home and only a coordinated community effort will put a stop to these heinous crimes; and

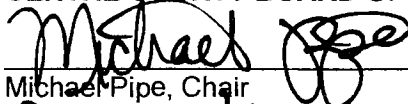
WHEREAS, Domestic Violence Awareness Month provides an excellent opportunity for citizens to learn more about preventing domestic violence and to show support for the numerous organizations and individuals who provide critical advocacy, services and assistance to victims;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, in recognition of the work done by the numerous organizations and individuals who provide critical advocacy, services and assistance to victims and their pets, the Centre County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim the month of October 2016 as "*Domestic Violence Awareness Month*" in Centre County and urges all citizens to play a role in the elimination of violence from our community.

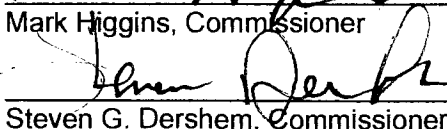
ADOPTED this 27th day of September, 2016




CENTRE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


Michael Pipe, Chair


Mark Higgins, Commissioner


Steven G. Dershem, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Denise L. Elbell, Acting Administrator